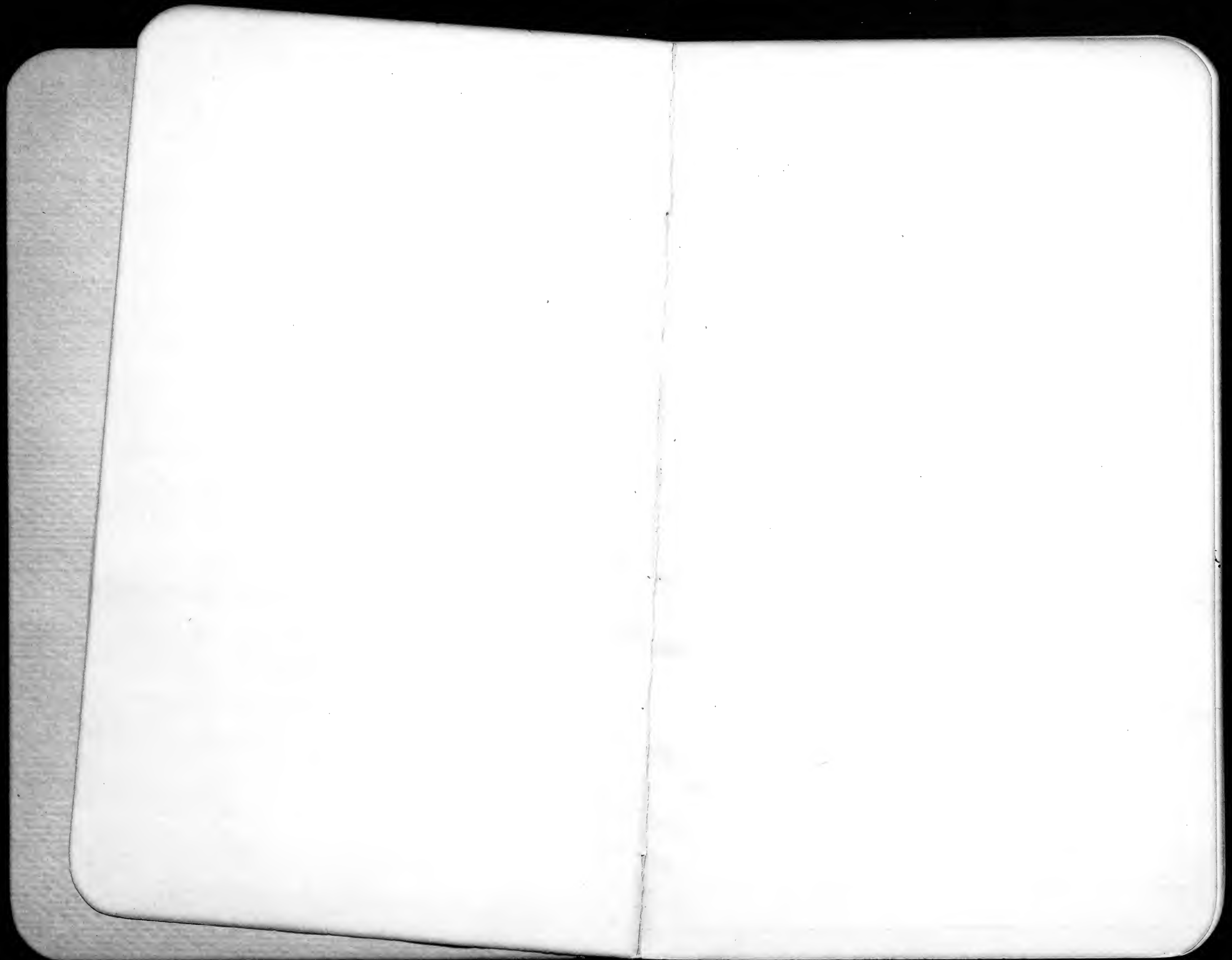


Thomas Bailey

1866

Aug 15 1891



Vernon Bailey.

1888.

1888.

May 15. Left Elk River at 4:49 P.M. enroute for Pierre, Dakota. Waited 20 minutes at Minneapolis & started west from there at 6:40 P.M. Laid over at Kassota Junction from 10 P.M. to 3 A.M.

" 16. Left Kassota at 3 A.M., began to get daylight as we reached New Ulm, the ground white with frost from daylight till it melted off at about 10 A.M.

The water in the Minnesota River very high, over much of the valley. Much water in ponds sloughs & streams in both Dakota & Minnesota. Reached Huron at noon & there noticed the first advance in vegetation, From Huron there is a constant advance until reaching Pierre where vegetation is at least two weeks ahead of that at Elk River, Minn.

Plum blossoms have mostly fallen off, Choke cherries are in blossom & full leaf,

Flowering Currants (*Ribes aureum*) in blossom & leaf, they grow wild here - abundant; boxelder, cottonwood & willow leaves nearly full grown. Has been no frost at Pierre for about 3 weeks.

1888.

(2)

May 17. Rained in night + nearly all day.
Crossed the river to Coulson - old Ft. Pierre - but could see no advantage to be gained by staying on that side of the river + there is but little chance to stay there at all, so I came back + settled at the east end of Pierre.

" 18. Cleared up but some muddy yet. got out my traps + gun + went up on the hills in morning. Got some birds but could find no signs of mice. Saw two Jack Rabbits.

In afternoon hunted over the same kind of ground but without much success. While kicking over some grass to look for mouse holes I kicked out a young Jack Rabbit not half as large as a little Gray Rabbit. It ran about 15 rods + crouched down flat on the prairie where was nothing but short grass, but I could not find it for a long time + then caught it before it moved.

1888.

May 19. Hunted all the forenoon.

Killed some birds + identified many more, birds are very numerous in the narrow strip of timber + brush along the river. They evidently follow the river in migrating, + all resident or sojourning woodland birds collect in this timber.

Found a good many holes of Striped Gophers but saw only a glimpse of one. Didnt find a mouse hole of any kind.

Caught another young Jack Rabbit. It was sitting in a scooped out place under some grass + I crawled up + grabbed it. When caught it bleated like a young lamb + kicked hard but soon lay still in my hands, was about as big as the other.

Had to look up some birds in the "Key" + some plants in the botany + with preparing some specimens this took till supper time so went hunting again after supper. Had but little success. am afraid I will not find many mice.

May 20. Sunday, windy but very warm.
mercury reached 77°. lightning in the
east in evening.

" 21. A ~~clear~~ warm day - windy.
Mosquitos very thick even on the tops
of high hills.
Have been in the field all of the forenoon
+ most of afternoon. Found lots of mouse
signs + set 18 traps. Caught one *Arvicola*
richardsoni in an old well. Killed a Burrow-
ing Owl + saw another. They were at
old deserted Prairie Dog holes.
Was on the hills + prairie most of day
+ saw less birds than usual; only add-
ed one to my list

" 22. Rained hard in night + most of forenoon.
Went to my traps in afternoon + found
the bait washed off + most of them disturbed
by the rain but got one fine *Anthus*;
one *Thomomys* + two birds in the traps.
Set the traps over.

May 23. Went to traps + hunted all forenoon.
Caught one *Austrus* + two Gophers, killed
some birds + added some to my list.
Saw one Jack Rabbit.
In afternoon skinned + prepared specimens
+ after supper went to see the agent about
going down river on the boat, so didn't
hunt any more.

" 24. Hunted + went to traps in forenoon, got
some more birds + one *Austrus*.

In afternoon fixed the specimens + ~~hunted~~
some with out much success.

Tried to dig out a Burrowing Owl
nest but the ground is like stone.

" 25. Took up my traps in morning, only
got an *Arvicola riparis* + Gray Rabbit.
+ Gopher. Haven't done well trapping
for *Austrus*.

Packed up the skins, went to see the
steamboat agent + then began on
my report. Very warm - 84°.

May 26. A fine rain most all day.
Worked about all day on my report.
Expected to start down river Monday
but got letter that changes my plans +
will begin work on the west side of river
Monday. My eyes hurt so I can't work in
the evening.

" 27. Sunday. Cooler + clearing up. looks
as though tomorrow would be fair.

" 28. Clear + warm.

Went across the river to the Ft. Pierre side in
morning + staid all day. set out my traps but
didn't see much to shoot. killed two young
Jack Rabbits. found lots of signs of mice. saw
a Skunk track + lots of holes of Badger or Skunk.
The land is very different from the east side.
no boulders or signs of drift. All gumbo or soft
unstratified kind of slate, some red rocks of local
formation. very hilly. About half the hills are bare
gumbo or Bad lands. Found a lot of joints of
Basaltites, some petrified bones + lots of gypsum in the
gumbo.

May 29. Clear + warm. Hard storm in evening.
Went across to W. side in forenoon + went
to traps. Got three *Hesperomys* + one *Onychomys*.
Set the traps again but suppose the storm
has upset them.
Worked all afternoon preparing the specimens.
Looked up a few plants in the botany.

" 30. Rained hard in the night, very muddy
in morning so did not go out till
about 10 A.M. Hunted birds in brush
along river till noon.
Afternoon got a horse + went out six
miles to a Prairie Dog town, saw
about 50 Dogs + four Burrowing Owls.
The Dogs are very wild + I didn't get
any. Killed one Owl + some small
birds. Added four birds to my list
today. The wind blew so we couldn't
not cross the river.

" 31. Rained in morning, then clear.
Went across on W. side of river.

May. Got some Prairie Dogs + *Onychomys*.
Some notes + sketches, didn't get any
dinner. A hard days work but with
fairly good success.

June 1. Skinned 2 Prairie Dogs in morning, stuffed
3 + then pack all day + wrote until 12 P.M.
Expect to start down the river tomorrow.

" 2. Boat didn't come. could not get at
any work except to do a little sketching.

" 3. Sunday.

The steamer came at 11 A.M. were
loaded with soldiers + had some trouble
to get on board, but the captain said I
could go if I could sleep on deck.
Name of boat "The Terry".

Only ran about two hours, got stuck
in the mud + the wind blew so the pilot
could not see the channel.

Saw the first boulders on W. side of river
about 15 or 20 miles below Pierre.
Tied up for the night at 6:30.

June 4: Wind very strong. only ran about two hours all day. tied up to the bank & went on shore.

After running an hour tied up to a tree at 8:30 for the night, can't run nights & hardly days. The river is high but the channel is constantly changing & cannot be followed easily. The Ferry has a capacity of 300 tons & draws 30 inches of water with 70 tons as a load - the present load.

Slept on a blanket on deck.

" 5 Cold & raw.

Started at 4:30 & ran all day except about two hours that we were stuck on sand bar. Ran into bank several times & struck a sand bar so hard as to upset everything, the band was playing but stopped.

" 6. A cold night; 49° in morning, froze out & had to get up at daybreak & go down to the furnace to thaw. didn't sleep very well.

June , Ran most all day, had to stop
some for wood & at two small towns.
Made the best run of any day yet, -
about 87 miles.
Reached Running Water (opposite Kihrara)
at 9 P.M.
Went to hotel & turned in & took a good
sleep.

" 7. Crossed over to Kihrara in morning
& was too late for the stage for O'Neill,
but found a team going across so
got in with them & made the trip
in time to get the second train W. from
O'Neill.

" 8. Reached O'Neill at 2 P.M. & had to wait
for train till 5:30, then started for
Valentine & got there at 10.

" 9. Cold & raw, windy.
Got a lot of mail, enquired about
the country & found a chance to go

June , off south with a mail carrier.
Talked with him about the country
& decided to go to his place -
Kennedy P.O. in Clark Co., about
40 miles S. of Valentine, Neb.
Rode all day through the sand
hills, saw a few ponds & some
wooded ravines. killed a Prairie Dog.

" 10. Sunday.

Helped organize a Sunday school.

" 11. Got up early, loaded up & started
to work. set out a lot of traps, caught
one *A. austerus*, got a *Cricetotypus* -
flavus, & an *Onychomys* from an old
well. killed some birds. killed two
Skunks that came out from under the
house, & on the whole considers it a
good days work for the first. Prepared
all of the specimens & a Prairie Dog
caught Saturday.

Hope to get a *Dipodomys* tomorrow.

June 12. Went to traps in morning, got one *Dipodomys ordii* & some Pocket Gophers that I have not seen before - like *Thomomys talpoides* but with grooved incisors. Caught a little *Spermophile* that I never saw before - a miniature *richardsoni*. Skinned & prepared specimens in afternoon, set some more traps in evening.

" 13. Went to traps in morning & got some Gophers & a *Dipodomys* & a *Hesperomys*. Took up part of the traps & set others. Got back at noon & skinned & stuffed till dark. Hunted a little while in evening but without success. On the whole a good days work. Very warm.

" 14. Went to traps before breakfast & took them all up. Didn't catch anything. Made out my report & packed up things to leave early in morning. Very warm.

June 15, Went to W. Clarke's place,
10 miles south of Valentine.
Set some traps + watched for
bats all of the twilight.

" 16. Went to traps + hunted in forenoon
Caught a Mountain Rat + four young.
set some more traps, killed some
birds.

Stuffed rat + hunted in afternoon +
watched for bats in evening.

" 17. Sunday. very warm, 88°.

" 18. Warmer, 98°, clear, windy.

Caught 2 Pocket Gophers, 1 *Spermophilus*
absolutus, + a *13lineatus*.

Set traps over, + hunted.

Got the first mail since leaving Valentine.

" 19, Warm but rained in afternoon + cooled
off.

Went to traps + skinned two gophers in

June , forenoon. Caught two *Dipodomys*
one *Onychomys*, & one *arcturus*.

Skinned these & then went to my
coon trap at the river. An Otter or
Beaver had got in it & taken it off.
Got another trap set for Coon or
anything else.

Added a few new birds to my list.

" 20. Cool & some rain in showers all day.

Went to traps & hunted till noon, got
some mice, gophers, shrews, & a Fox Squirrel.
Skinned & stuffed things in afternoon
till 5 o'clock, then went to traps & hunted
till dark. got 4 gophers, one *arcturus* & two
Spizella arizonae, Set traps over.

Looked up some plants in botany.

" 21. Went to part of traps before breakfast &
to rest after. Took them all up, but two.
Caught some gophers & mice & got
some birds to skin.

Skinned things till noon & then

June, afternoon made out my report
+ wrote letters.

A good long days work.
Watched for bats a while in evening.

" 22. Packed specimens + trunk in forenoon
+ started for Valentine after dinner.
A ride of ten miles through the
sand hills was rather dry of notes.
Not a gopher seen + but few birds. saw
one Quail + a few Shorelarks near
Valentine. The cacti, *Opuntia*
missouriensis + *fragilis*, are well in
blossom + the great, yellow, rose like
blossoms are beautiful.

" 23. Traveled all night + reached
Buffalo Gap at 8 A.M.
Watched around the stores + talked
with farmers till I found a place
that suited me to stop + started
out in the country to a farmhouse
three miles from town

June. In afternoon took gun & note book
& started for the hills. Found some
7. quadrivittatus, killed a pair of Blue
Grosbeaks & a Painted Finch.
Saw a white throated Swift, all
new to me.

"24. Sunday,

"25. Took traps & went up to hills, set traps
for gophers, mice, rats, & musk, &
Prairie Dog.

Found a Rattle Snake, the first I have
seen alive, led it home with a
string. Killed some birds but didn't
get anything of account.

Set more traps & hunted in afternoon,
Rained in evening & will upset some of
the traps.

"26. Set trap for Beaver, found a Prairie
Dog town & killed one dog. went
to other traps but only got one Thomomys.

June 27. Went to traps but didn't get the Beaver.
Killed some Prairie Dogs - 3 young &
one old one. could have killed any
number of adults but the young are shy.
In all my traps only got one *Thomomys*.
Skinned the Prairie Dogs & hunted
for mice in evening.

Saw two young Panthers up in the hills
but had nothing but fire shot with
me & let them go. Came home & got
some heavy shot & went back could not
find them.

" 28. Hunted & went to traps in forenoon.
Got some more young Prairie Dogs &
& *13lineatus* & an *austrius*.
Worked at the skins most of afternoon.
In evening, just before sundown, saw
an old Panther going along a side
hill about 80 rods from the house.
Followed a ways but it was of
no use.

1888.

June 29. Went to traps + hunted in forenoon but didn't get a thing of any use. Had but little better success in afternoon but found holes of something new, perhaps of *Dipodomys* but guess not.

Went down to the Chesapeake river and over new ground. found some Magpies + their old nest. the first nest I have seen.

" 30. As usual no success, one young gopher only.
In afternoon went to town + got some letters. Very warm.

July 1. Sunday. Rained.

" 2. Went to my traps in morning, got a pair of *Dipodomys* + a young *T. talpoides*. Set some more traps + hunted on hills for holes of *Arvicola pallidus*, found no fresh holes.

July , Skinned the things + set beaver traps over in afternoon, set some other traps too. Didn't kill anything of use.

" 3. Went to traps + hunted all of forenoon. Got one *Oryzomys*, two *austrius*, + some other things. - enough to keep me busy all of afternoon.

Didn't catch any Beaver but found out one of their habits. They came + stopped up a hole that I made in the dam yesterday, made another hole + set trap in it.

Found, for the first time, *Sialia arctica* - killed two.

Got my mail - several letters.

" 4. Went to my beaver + a few other traps before breakfast. Caught a beaver but it pulled off its foot + got away. set the trap again but it is no use now.

July , Went horseback with four other fellows over to Fall river - 5 miles. Had no especial object in going but would go over country not visited before & thought I might find something. Didn't see anything new or of use. Worked & wrote some after noon & in evening watched for beavers at the pond till dark.

" 5, Made out my report in forenoon. Took up the last of my traps before breakfast. In afternoon packed the specimens & my trunk, ready to start for Custer in morning.

" 6, Started from Buffalo Gap for Custer at 9 A.M., a distance of 25 miles. by wagon. We enter the hills at the Gap & then it is all up grade.

July , The road follows creek valleys most of the way. After about 10 miles from the Gap there is heavy pine timber the rest of the way. The timber seems to coincide with the granite area.

Reached Custer at 7 P.M.

- " 7. Took gun & started out of town to find a place to stay. Struck a ranch out about one mile from town that just suited my work. Got things moved out & unpacked & had a hunt in afternoon.

Did little more than look over the country, but saw some game, - one Woodchuck.

- " 8. Sunday, cloudy most of day a shower in afternoon.

July 9. Got up early, took traps & gun & started into the woods. Killed some birds, a Red Squirrel & Chipmunk - saw lots more, found a pineas nest, got some sketches, & set some traps.

In afternoon prepared the specimens & set some more traps.

Looked up a few plants in the botany. Cold enough in morning for an overcoat & gloves, at noon hot.

" 10. Cold night & hot day.

Caught a Skunk & *Sorex personatus*. Cant seem to get a Woodchuck.

Went to traps, hunted, & skinned things. Shot at bats in evening but didnt get one.

A rather poor day.

" 11. Very warm day - 96°.

Went to traps & hunted till noon. Got a *Neotoma*, some other

July

, things of little account.

Saw one Arctomys, & four Deer.

Shot at one deer but it was too far off. A doe & fawn came out of a thicket to drink at a brook. The fawn was spotted.

In afternoon skinned & stuffed the specimens, sketched some, & hunted bats in evening.

" 12. Went to traps & farther up in the hills than before.

Found the deer, that I shot at yesterday, dead & spoiled. Shot at another but didn't get it.

Caught a Weasel, a Skunk, a Zapus, & a Thomomys; killed some birds; shot at a Woodchuck.

Cloudy in evening so I couldn't hunt bats.

A pleasant day but threatens rain in evening.

1888.

July 13. Hunted in forenoon. got some birds. Caught two mice in traps, a *Hesperomys* + a long tailed *Arvicola*. The *Arvicola* I have not found before.

Caught two Woodchucks, but one got out of trap + the other pulled up the stake + went in a hole among rocks. Shot another + got it. Caught a young Rabbit.

Skinned some of the things. set some traps over. hunted bats in evening out as before, no success. They fly like a streak + don't come out till quite dark.

A pleasant day, cold evening.

" 14. Didn't catch anything in traps + didn't kill anything to save, so had not much to do but hunt.

Went to town in afternoon, took gun + hunted along the way, got a Tanager.

Sketched some, Watched for bats all the evening, saw but few, shot at two but missed them.

July 16, Got up at 5 o'clock to the music of a cold rain. Stopped raining after breakfast but continued cloudy, cold + wet. Hunted all forenoon but got nothing of account; took up some of my traps + set them over, didn't catch a thing in them.

Sketched a little, skinned a Chipmunk + Gopher, looked up a few plants in botany. Hunted some more in afternoon, watched for bats in evening. saw three but didn't get a shot. They have left the valley since I began shooting at them.

" 17, More rain in night + nothing in my traps but one *Neotoma*. Hunted till noon. Only got two gophers - *S. 13lineatus*. Stuffed the *Neotoma* + gophers + hunted in afternoon, didn't kill a thing, but found an *Aretomys* + set a trap for it. Watched for bats in evening in a new place, only got one shot + missed. A poor days work.

July 18. Went to most of my traps before breakfast, caught an *Eutamias*, a Red Squirrel, & an *Arctomys*. Went to town after my mail, took gun & hunted along the way, got a *S. blinensis* & crossbill - probably *mexicana*. Prepared specimens & hunted after noon. Watched for bats in evening, saw 3, shot at one but missed it. Cold in morning (42°) & cool all day.

" 19. Splendid weather, just warm enough to take off my flannel after noon. Took a new route in morning, over more open ground. Killed an old, big Woodchuck, saw two more. Found some fox holes & set traps for them. Killed some birds, caught two mice, & a *Thomomys talpoides*. Skinned part of the things, didn't have time to all. Got one good shot at a bat in evening, guess I brought it down but couldn't find it.

July 20. Tramped from 6 A.M. till noon,
almost steadily, up hill & down.
Caught a Fox & killed two
Arctomys flaviventris - saw six.
Got a few small things of little
account. Had 3 Woodchucks & a
Fox to prepare in afternoon & didn't
get them all done. Worked steadily
& as fast as possible till supper
time, then watched for bats in evening,
didn't get a shot. Then wrote some.
A warm day, but pleasant.

" 21, Went to traps & took them up. a Fox
got out of one & they dug under another
Killed a big bull Woodchuck, weighed
17 lbs. Got 2 mice.
Was working hard to get things
ready to leave but got a letter
& had to change my plans, will
stay a few days longer.
Went to town after ammunition.
A warm day.

July 22, Sunday, clear + cool,
wrote letters + read some.

" 23, Went out at daylight + hunted till
breakfast, only got 2 birds.
Hunted from breakfast till noon,
got an *Arctomys flaviventris* + a
little Rabbit, + a lot of birds.
Spent a full hour trying to get a
shot at a *Dendroica auduboni*,
that was singing + flying around
in tops of tall pines, got it at last
+ felt well paid for the trouble. It is
the first of the species that I have seen.
A cloudy evening + bats came out
early, had several good shots + got
one, brought down another but couldn't
find it. This is the first of the kind
I have seen. don't know its name.

" 24, Hunted till breakfast, got one
X-bill, After breakfast skinned
a few things which took till 10:30

July. Then went to town a foot + got back at 12:15.

Afternoon hunted some, killed a few birds + stuffed a *Sorex personatus*. Then worked on my report till supper. Hunted bats in evening shot 5 times + got one bat.

A clear pleasant day but a shower in afternoon.

" 25. Worked till noon on my report, in afternoon packed the specimens, packed my trunk, + wrote letter so as to be all ready to start early in morning.

" 26. Went to Custer in morning + took the stage for Buffalo Gap at 10 A.M. Arrived at the Gap about 4 P.M. A pleasant ride of 25 mi. over stony roads. The pine + granite regions of the hills seem to be co-extensive. After leaving the granite we cross

July, a whitish marble, then a red marble, then red beds + gypsum, then the sandstone of the outer wall of the hills. A marked change in vegetation noticed from the granite to the outer formations. Saw a fine ♂ Louisiana Tanager, the first male that I have seen.

Left Buffalo Gap at 5:44 P.M. + got into Chadron at about 8.

There had been a heavy rain at Chadron + the streets were like a river, water about a foot deep on a level. The railroad completely submerged. Had to wait till morning for a train west.

" 27. Started W. at 7:20.

Near Custer oats were not headed out + potatoes hardly in blossom; at Chadron they were harvesting oats, wheat, + barley, + corn was tassled out. many farms near Chadron

July, + crops look good. The country gradually grows drier as we go west + farming is not a success in western Neb.

Took notes on birds + plants along the way + studied botany some. Got to Ft. Fetterman at 3:30 P.M. Counted mile posts to locate my notes. Found no mail at Fetterman. Not much else there but the old fort buildings. A poor place for work but I will have to stay till mail come with further orders.

" 28, Took a few drinks of water yesterday + it is strongly alkaline. Think I can now realize how I would feel without any backbone, from having nothing in front of my backbone to support me. Hunted about 2 hours in morning + then came in, didnt feel able to tramp longer. Went without any dinner + eat some bread + boiled milk for supper. Did what writing + indoor work I could.

July 29. Sunday, hot & dry.
Felt weak, staid in house all
day, Didnt eat or drink much.

" 30. Hunted all forenoon, got some birds
& identified many more. Set 6 traps.
Got very tired. Rested awhile &
then went out in P.M., got a Shoelark
& *L. sylvaticus*. Saw a Jack Rabbit
saw one in morning to.
Set 8 traps for Gophers, mice etc.
Eat a good square supper & will
feel better or worse in morning.
A cool windy day. Got very thirsty
but did drink between meals.

" 31. Went to traps, got nothing but a
Hesperomys. Killed a *Lepus sylvaticus*
Had a good shot at a *L. campestris*
but didnt fetch him, the other barrel
snapped. Killed 2 Prairie Dogs
& saved their skulls. They are feed-
ing on cactus seeds & stems.

July, Wind blew hard all day & I couldn't find small birds.

Hunted most all day & didn't get anything of account.

Most choked for a drink but dairent drink water. eat lots of Bullberries & black currants, both are getting ripe.

Aug. 1, Had a heavy rain in the night. Got a good drink of rainwater; the first drink of water that I have taken for 5 days.

Went to traps but they were all packed full of sand by the rain & only got a Thomomys, set them over again.

Killed a Sage hen & had it cooked for dinner. It was very good.

Killed a lot of other birds, a *Lepus sylvaticus*, & a *L. campestris*.

Hunted all of the day except while preparing the few specimens that were worth saving. Can't find a Gopher or one hole even. The holes of *D. agilis* are common.

Aug. 2, Went out in morning took
up my traps & hunted, didn't
get anything of account.

Made out a shabby report and
packed my things ready to start
in the morning for Laramie City,
thence to the Medicine Mts.

I don't get away maid. & have to
do something.

" 3. Left Ft. Fetterman at 9:30 A.M., reached
Douglas at 10 & had to wait till 6 P.M.
for the stage to Rock creek.

Could not do anything but wait around
town. Went out among the sage brush
& shot a *Spizella* with my revolver.

Left Douglas about 6 P.M. & traveled
till 12:15 .. A clear cold night
Wore a Buffalo overcoat & then got cold.
Stopped at ranch at 12:15 & slept on
floor till morning.

Saw Prairie Dogs till dark & some
Sage hens.

Aug. 4. When I awoke in morning found that we were on top of the Laramie Mts. in a broad grassy valley with high granite peaks + ridges all around.

There are some ranches in the valleys + lots of horses + cattle feeding in the valleys. Clear spring brooks + good water are abundant. Many of the plants + flowers are new to me + some kinds I have not seen between here + the Black Hills.

It is a splendid clear, cold morning + we have breakfast + are off early on the road, + watching for everything of interest. As soon as the sun is up high enough to begin to warm up a little we see a few *Tamias quadrivittatus* + from the stage count five *Arctomys flaviventris* sunning themselves on the rocks. One *Sciurus hudsonicus* is seen + after it grows a little warmer the first *Spermophilus richardsoni*; then they may be seen, sitting up like stakes all along the road.

Aug. 4. The holes of Skunks & Badgers & the hills of *Thomomys talpoides* are common all along.

At 9 A.M., the driver found that he had lost or left a mail bag, & so put up his team, took a horse & went back after it, while I took the shot gun & note book & tramped over the valley.

I shot a few *S. richardsoni*; & on coming into a Prairie Dog town, soon noticed that their voices were different from any that I had ever heard. & also that the dirt thrown out of their holes was all on one side. The matter seemed to need investigating & I soon had a Prairie Dog to examine. The first glance showed plainly that it was not a *Ludovicianus*.

I then secured another & took such notes on his habits as was possible to observe in the next few hours.

Shot & skinned a *Lepus mexicanus*, the first that I had found to identify.

Aug. 4. Collected some of the plants that were new to me & returned to the ranch, got my dinner, identified most of the plants & recorded notes on them.

Started on again at 3 P.M. but could not reach Rock Creek today so stopped for the night at a ranch twenty miles this side.

Killed 3 Sage Grouse, saw lots more. The young are over half grown & are in broods of 6-12.

" 5. Sunday, a cold windy day, too cold to be out doors without an overcoat. Started in morning for Rock Creek & made the last 20 miles of the stage trip before 9 A.M.

The road is all the way over sage-brush plains - the west slope of the Laramie Mts. Saw three small droves of Antelope, some Sage Grouse, lots of *S. richardsoni*, 3 *S. lineatus*, 2 young eagles sitting on the ground, & prairie dog holes.

Aug. , Rock Creek is a station in
a bare sage brush valley.

Had to wait till 4:30 P.M. for train
to Laramie, sketched 2 young
Antelope that were in the hotel yard.

Eyes hurt from riding in the wind,
Arrived at Laramie at 6:30. put up
at the Wilson House, for the night.

" 6. The stage to North Park, that I
ought to have gone out on, went
at 7 A.M. & before I found out where
I wanted to go.

Watched around town for teams from
the mountains but failed to find any
Wrote some & made out a small report
from notes taken along the road.

Can see the snow covered peaks of
mountains in Colorado - 70 miles away.

" 7. Hunted gophers awhile in morning, got
a few sketches & notes. The rest of day
watched for teams from the mountains &

Aug. Spent most of the time among hotels & livery stables to try & find a team that was going to the Medicine Mts.

Could hire a livery rig to take me out for \$10.⁰⁰ but havent money enough to do it + pay for a weeks board.

- " 8. The stage for North Park, Colorado, goes out at 7 A.M., + I take it as far as Woods P.O., about 30 miles south of Laramie. Reach Woods at 12 M. It is on the Big Laramie R. in the Medicine Mts. looks like a good place for my work. Got out the skins that I had taken along the road + finished them as soon as possible. Went out hunting for a few hours in afternoon but did little more than look over the ground. Got a *T. quadrivittatus*, + a Night Hawk. Got fairly settled + unpacked ready for work.

Aug. 9. A team was going 13 miles farther up the Mts. after hay & ^{they} said there was lots of game along the road so I went along, was gone all day & did not get much. Killed 2 *Tamias lateralis* & 4 *Seiurus douglasi* (?). & a few birds. Saw 4 *Arctomys flaviventris* on a large pile of slabs at an old saw mill.

" 10. Worked as fast as I could from 7 A.M. till 4 P.M. preparing the skins of 7 Squirrels & Chipmunks & 4 birds. Then hunted an hour before supper. got a *Lepus sylvaticus* & a *Pipilo-chlorurus*. - the first I have found; set a few traps. Have worked steadily all day but haven't seemed to accomplish much.

Aug. 11. Hunted till 10:30 A.M.

Killed 5 Prairie Dogs & 4 Gophers.
Wrote a letter before dinner & then worked
as fast as I could till dark to
get the things skinned & ready
to stuff.

A clear day, just warm enough to
be pleasant.

" 12, Sunday, a pleasant day.
Wrote & read most of day.

" 13. Finished up the specimens that
were skinned Saturday. then went
hunting & set traps. got a few birds
only. In afternoon went up among
the hills & got a Pine Squirrel,
2 *Tamias laticaudatus*, & a big Woodchuck.
Received a lot of mail & supplies.

" 14. Got up early & wrote till breakfast.
Went to traps, got 2 Mink, 2 *T. talpoides*, &
2 *Hesperomys*.

Aug. , Came back at 9:30 A.M. wrote & worked at some sketches till noon.

After noon worked all the time skinning things till 7 o'clock. sketched & wrote in evening till 9.

Have not got all the things skinned yet.
A cool cloudy day. some rain

" 15. Worked at the specimens till 11 A.M. then went to my traps, Got a Mink & a *T. talpoides* & some *Hesperomys*.

In P.M. went up a canyon for a mile or two into the mts. Killed 3 *Spizella breweri* & some other birds, & one *Tamias lateralis* & a *Lepus campestris*. Rained part of the time & was a poor time to hunt. Rained most all of forenoon but I had plenty of work to do.

" 16, Worked at the specimens from 6 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. except an hour that I hunted & went after my traps. Began my report at 5 P.M. & finished 6 pages of it.

Aug. 17, Finished my report in A.M.
+ begun packing the specimens.
Finished packing them at 3 P.M.
+ then packed my trunk.
Have a team engaged to take
me to Laramie in the morning.

" 18, Left Wood's place at 9. A.M. for
Laramie, traveling 26 miles across
the plains by team. Reached
Laramie at 3 P.M., shipped my
box of specimens, made arrangements
to have my mail forwarded + then
had to wait till 8 P.M. for the
train to Cheyenne. Wrote + sketched
some while waiting.
Reached Cheyenne at 11. P.M. +
put up at the Arlington House.

" 19. Sunday -
Took a walk over the prairie +
saw lots of Prairie Dogs - all
C. ludovicianus.

Aug. 20, Found Mr. Frank Bond & had a talk with him, then got my trunk from the dyes & unpacked & got ready for a hunt.

Hunted most all the afternoon with Mr. Bond, got 4 Gophers & 7 birds, & set 2 traps for *Thomomys*.

After supper I went to a Prairie Dog town & set 4 traps but didn't kill anything, got back at 8 o'clock, then made 3 bird skins & labeled & catalogued the stomachs of all the birds. Finished at 10:30.

" 21, Went out to traps & hunting for a while in morning, got a *talpoides* & 2 *S. townsendi*, got back at 9 o'clock. Sketched an hour, then skinned a few Gophers till noon, reloaded my cartridges & cleaned gun. Afternoon hunted & set traps till supper, then skinned & wrote till 12 o'clock, but didn't get done.

Aug. 22. A warm pleasant day.

Hunted + set traps all forenoon.

Got a *Cynomys ludov.* + some
gophers + 3 mice - a *Hesperomys*,
a *Mus musculus*, + a *Zapus*.

Caught a big cat.

Killed a Marsh Hawk + one *T. verticalis*.

Set traps over. Got back at 12:30.

In P.M., skinned 4 gophers, a
Prairie Dog, Rabbit, + *Zapus*.

Stuffed the gophers, mouse + six
other gophers that I had skinned before.

Skinned 7 things + stuffed 11, put a
gopher in alcohol + stuffed a Burrowing
Owl. Got done at 9 P.M. + then
had to catalogue them.

It is now 10:30 + I am about
done for today.

" 23. Went the round of my traps +
hunted in forenoon. Didn't kill
or catch much of use except an
Arvicola riparia,

Aug. All of my Thomomys traps were covered up.

Set my traps over + some more for mice.

In P.M. went with Mr. Bond in another direction but didn't find anything new, got one Arremona + a Marsh Hawk.

Got back at 5 o'clock, skinned the mouse + gopher before supper, after supper stuffed the mouse + gopher + a Prairie Dog + Rabbit. + made 3 birdskins

Not a very successful day.
Very warm.

" 24, Went to traps in forenoon. found all of my Thomomys traps empty - mostly covered up with dirt or sprung + stones in them. Set them over. Killed 4 Spermophiles + some birds.

In P.M. skinned the Spermophiles, a Arremona + birds.

Aug. After supper went the round of my
Thomomys traps + got 3 Thomomys.
Worked at the skins all of evening,
after I got back at 9 o'clock.

" 25. Went to traps in morning, got one
Onychomys + an Arvicola + killed
some birds.. Worked at the specimens
all of afternoon + went to traps after
supper. Got 3 Thomomys + took up
my traps. Skinned + stuffed the 3
Thomomys after I got back at 8:30.
A warm day.

" 26. Sunday.

" 27. Began on my report at 6 A.M.
+ had it done at 10:30.
Then packed the specimens +
my trunk. shipped the box, bought
my ticket + got all ready to start
in morning.

Aug. 28. Left Cheyenne at 5:55 A.M.
+ climbed the grade of 2000 ft.
to Sherman, the highest point
on the U.P.R.R.

Stopped at Sherman + hunted the
rest of day, but found nothing
of especial interest or that I had
not found at the Medicine Mts.

Set some traps for *Thomomys*.
Could not find or learn of any
Prairie Dogs in the vicinity.

Made a list of the birds but found
none of kinds not found near before.

" 29. Got up at daylight + went to traps
caught 2 *Thomomys* + a good
Onychomys leucogaster. ^{Sk}

Went back to station + learned
that the train had run into the
ditch + was behind time, so
skinned the gophers + took the
first freight train for Laramie
+ waited for the train in evening.
Sketched *Onychomys* + put it in alcohol.

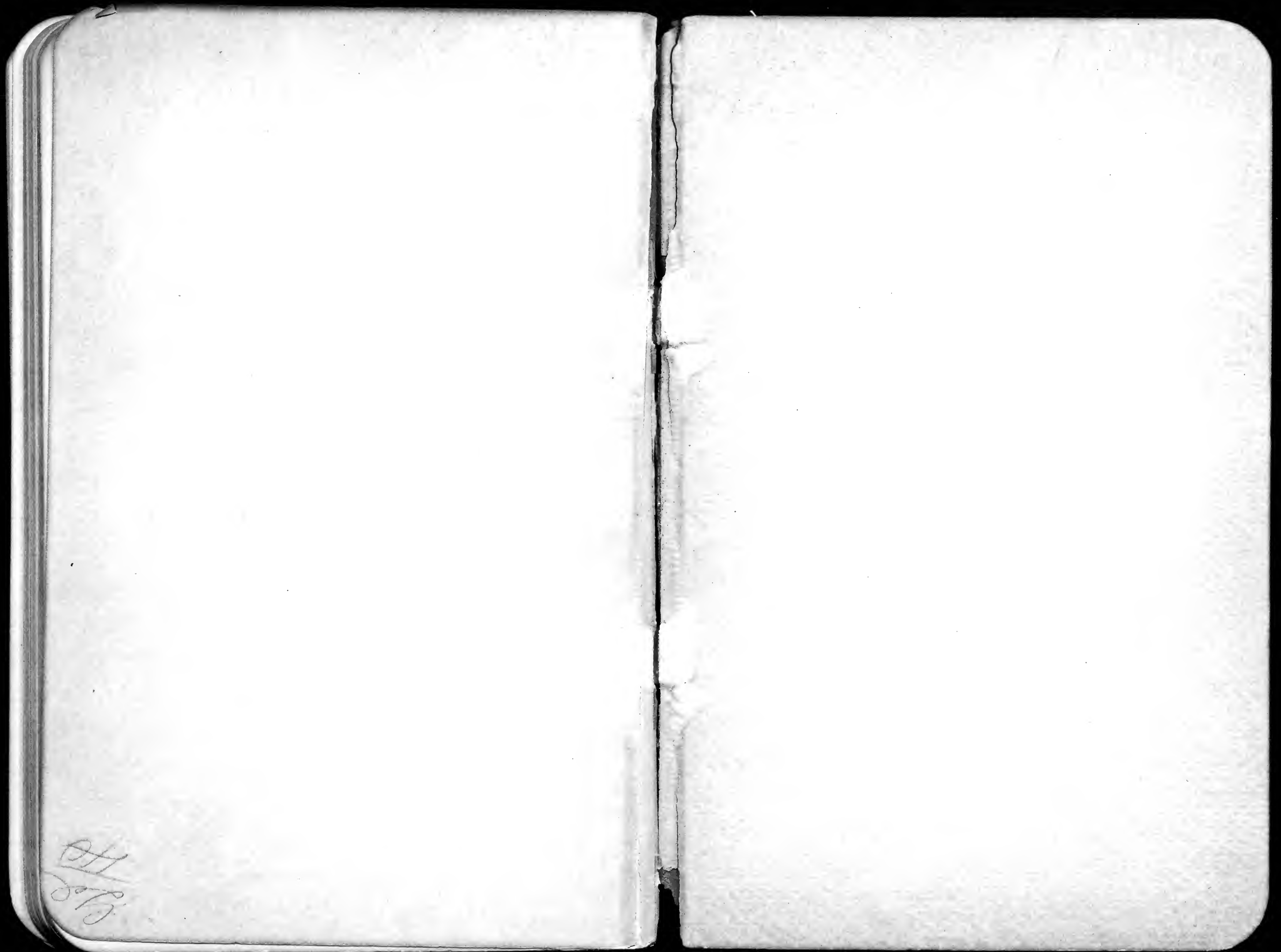
Aug. , Saw some holes of *Cynomys columbianus* about half way from Sherman to Laramie, no other signs of Prairie Dogs along R.R. from Cheyenne to Laramie.
Started west at 9 P.M.

" 30. Traveled all night & reached Rawlins at 5 A.M. Begun at once to make inquiries but could not learn much about the Bridger Pass country. Finally found a farmer who lived near Bridger Pass & who agreed to take me to his ranch in afternoon.
Started at 3 P.M. & reached the ranch at 7. - 18 miles.
All the road is through sagebrush & dry alkali hills. no timber.
Saw no mammals except *Rattus* & a *T. quadrivittatus*.
Had a rough ride in a hayrack after a broncho team with a drunken driver.

Aug. 31. Got up + unpacked my things
+ fixed some skins taken along
the road + then went out + set
traps + hunted till noon.

Didn't kill much but found many
holes of Thomomys near by + signs
of mice. set traps for them.

After noon skinned a Tamias +
Flycatcher, then hunted + set a few
more traps. Found a Porcupine
that had been killed lately +
skinned that.



H. 100

